

13.08.320 – Renewable generation energy purchase policy

St. Charles Municipal Electric Utility (SCMEU) shall make available, upon request, renewable generation energy purchase (RGEP) service to any customer taking service from SCMEU and who meets the requirements set forth in this policy. For purposes of this Section “RGEP” service means service to an electric customer under which electric energy generated by that electric customer from an eligible on-site renewable energy generating facility, owned by that customer and, under some circumstances delivered to the local distribution facilities, may be used to offset electric energy provided by the SCMEU to the electric customer as provided for in this policy. Leases or Power Purchase Agreements (PPA’s) for generation that are not owned by the customer are specifically prohibited as such violate the State Statute that gives the City the unique right to serve the customers within our service territory. Such service shall be subject to the following provisions:

- A. For purposes of this policy an eligible on-site generating facility shall be defined as a renewable generating facility such as a photovoltaic facility or small wind turbines. Other forms of renewable generation, such as sources fueled by landfill methane, fuel cells, or micro turbines fueled by renewable fuels shall be considered on a case-by-case basis. In all cases facilities interconnected must be deemed to be renewable by SCMEU to qualify for this policy.
- B. The electric generating facility must also abide by SCMEU Interconnection Standards (13.08.315).
- C. Subject to the limitations set forth herein, SCMEU shall make RGEP service available upon request to any SCMEU electric customer with a qualifying generating facility of 10kW capacity or less.
- D. Any generating facility greater than 10kW but less than 1MW shall be considered on a case-by-case basis. The decision with respect to such facilities shall be made by SCMEU based upon its contractual obligations, system safety issues and other relevant information.
- E. Customer-owned generation shall be designed for annual production to be no more than 100% of the annual energy needs of the premise.
- F. Energy generated by the customer-owned generator will offset the energy required by the customer’s load during the billing period. For any energy generated by the customer in excess of the energy required by the customer’s loads for a given billing period a credit (as set forth in paragraph G. below) shall be carried forward to the customer’s next billing period. In no case shall credits for excess energy be carried forward for a period greater than three billing periods. In the event of termination of an account qualifying for RGEP under this policy, any outstanding credits are surrendered. Under no circumstances will there be payments, or credit transfers for excess energy. Credits shall be for energy only; there is no credit for capacity (demand).
- G. Excess energy will be credited based on the wholesale cost SCMEU pays. For customers served under residential Rate 1, small general service Rate 3, and Governmental Outdoor Sports Lighting Rate 6, the credit will be determined by the average wholesale cost per kilowatt-hour paid by SCMEU to our energy supplier in the previous fiscal year. The credit for customers served under general service Rate 5 and Industrial Rate 7 will be the kilowatt-hour charge specified in the respective rates set forth in this Chapter for the month in which the credit is earned.
- H. Any costs SCMEU incurs associated with the RGEP program, including but not limited to changes in metering, other physical facilities or billing-related costs, shall be borne by the participants in the RGEP program.

(2020-M-8 : § 1; 2009-M-69 : § 2)